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REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN, AUDITORS,

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

AND

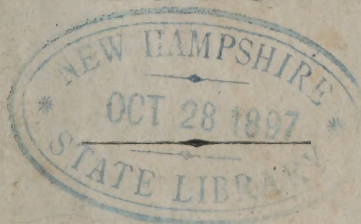
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY,

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 1,

1855.



NASHUA, N. H. :

PRINTED BY S. H. NOYES.

1855.

THE

REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS

OF THE

LANDS

AND

1883

ALBANY:
PUBLISHED BY J. B. KIRK
1883

REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

RECEIPTS.

The Treasurer is charged as follows, viz :
1854, Feb. 23.

To balance account,	386 08	
Principle of Surplus Revenue,	3348 00	
Principle of Literary Fund,	724 02	
List of Resident, State, County, Town, and School Taxes for the year 1854,	2054 29	
School Non-resident,	306 49	
“ “ highway,	182 41	
Resident list of School-house tax, District No. 4,	34 40	
Non-resident, “ No. 4,	1 94	
Resident list, “ No. 5,	47 27	
Non-resident, “ No. 5,	5 17	
Resident, “ No. 7,	420 95	
Non-resident, “ No. 7,	103 65	
Cash rec'd from State Literary fund,	98 06	
“ “ “ Railroad tax,	191 83	
“ “ County for support of County Poor,	439 79	
Int. rec'd on surplus revenue fund,	199 61	
“ “ Literary fund,	42 52	
Cash rec'd for use of Town House,	20 00—\$8606 48	
And credited as follows, viz :		
By paid outstanding orders,	265 18	
State and County tax,	972 73	
Schools,	1008 24	
School Dist. and Teachers' Institute,	108 49	
Roads and Bridges,	57 18	
Non-resident highway tax in labor,	94 91	
Town Notes and interest,	290 41	
Militia,	4 00	
Abatement and discount,	103 76	
Miscellaneous expenses,	68 97	
Town Officers,	258 88	
Poor at the Alms-house,	13 25	
Paupers other than Alms-house,	191 45	
County poor,	54 16	

Principal of surplus revenue fund,	3348 00
“ Literary fund,	739 60
Balance of account,	1027 27—\$8606 48

DISBURSMENTS.

Outstanding orders,	265 18
State tax,	365 40
County Tax,	607 33—\$1237 91

SCHOOLS.

District No. 1,	-	-	-	154 16
“ “ 2,	-	-	-	128 30
“ “ 3,	-	-	-	72 67
“ “ 4,	-	-	-	88 90
“ “ 5,	-	-	-	100 04
“ “ 6,	-	-	-	66 95
“ “ 7,	-	-	-	95 10
“ “ 8,	-	-	-	139 64
“ “ 9,	-	-	-	84 06
“ “ 10,	-	-	-	19 89
“ “ 11,	-	-	-	58 53—\$1008 24

SCHOOL DISTRICT AND TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

Building Committee School Dist. No. 4,	35 00
“ “ “ No. 5,	50 00
Teachers' Institute of R. County,	23 49—\$108 49

ROADS AND BRIDGES.—SMITH ROAD.

Samuel Coffin for blasting stone,	3 00
Samuel Smith making Sec. No. 3,	
as by previous contract,	32 30 35 30

REPAIRS.

John Goss, for plank,	75
E. S. Harvey, for plank,	3 15
Samuel Anderson, for timber,	3 50
Francis D. Anderson, plank and teaming,	3 43
J. Annis Jr., plank & labor \$1 outstanding,	
Elisha Smith, road at Gully hill,	3 00
Thomas Boyd, for timber,	7 00
Thomas Elliot for stone,	1 00—\$57 18

NON-RESIDENT HIGHWAY.

Highway receipts for 1853,	19 64
“ “ “ 1854,	75 27—\$94 91

TOWN NOTES AND INTEREST.

John Campbell, principal and interest,	10 21
John Moore, principal and interest,	156 62
West Parish, interest,	8 40
Town Treasurer,	97 18
John Gilchrist, interest 18 months,	18 00—\$290 41

MILITIA.

Samuel Gilchrist,	1 00
Charles D. Greeley,	1 00
David Mantor,	1 00
Thomas B. Platts,	1 00—\$4 00

ABATEMENTS AND DISCOUNT.

Collector's list for 1853,	4 88
Collector's list for 1854,	12 22
Horace P. Watts,	5 00
Discount on taxes paid before Dec. 1st,	81 66—\$103 76

MISCELLANEOUS.

W. Wesley Wilkins, for guide boards,	4 50
N. P. Greene, books and stationery,	6 92
Assessment for insurance on Almshouse,	1 58
Campbell & Gilmore, printing town accounts for 1853,	16 00
Abbott, Jenks & Co., printing handbills,	1 25
Citizens Insurance Co., (stock co. at Salem, Mass., policy of \$1000 on Town House for five years.)	16 00
Clark & Bell, for counsel,	1 00
Sawyer & Stevens, for counsel,	2 00
Express for collecting railroad tax,	25
Rockingham F. M. F. I. co. policy on Almshouse,	2 25
Wm. H. Martin, return of births & deaths,	1 80
Wm. J. Campbell, " "	1 05
Clerk Recording, " "	4 68
J. Shipley, taking care of hearse & house,	1 25
Arley Plummer, postage,	94
J. M. Usher, damage to wagon near Boyd's saw mill brook,	2 00
J. Dickey, cutting bushes in grave yard,	1 50
D. R. Leach, for collecting county money,	4 00—\$68 97

TOWN OFFICERS.

David Gilcreast, Jr., selectman's services,	7 08
John Campbell, " "	2 95
John A. Plummer, " "	3 54
S. Gilcreast, services as sup'r committee,	15 00
John Dickey, " "	13 00
Calvin Boyd, services as moderator,	5 00
Wm. A. Holmes, services as clerk,	12 00
" " as Treasurer,	15 00
" " as Collector,	50 00

Wm. A. Holmes, collecting S. H. taxes,	10 00
David R. Leach, services as selectman,	36 00
Calvin Boyd " "	36 27
J. A. Holmes " "	39 50
" " select. clerk,	10 00
Auditors,	3 54—\$258 88

\$3232 75

DAVID R. LEACH, }
 JOHN A. HOLMES, } Selectmen,
 CALVIN BOYD, }

REPORT OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

POOR AT THE ALMSHOUSE.

D. H. Batchelder, medical attendance on	
Mrs. Lawson,	75
Wm. H. Martin " at almshouse,	12 50
E. G. Chase, sup. \$3 00 outstanding	
paupers other than almshouse,	
D. H. Batchelder, medical attendance on	
G. F. Chase, last year,	8 15
F. M. Chase, board and nursing G. F.	
Chase last year,	16 00
County of Hillsboro' for John Clark,	19 50
Mary J. Goodwin for Amos Goodwin,	
60 cents per week,	31 00
N. H. Asylum for Mary R. Parker,	83 00
Geo. Chrispin for J. Stanton's child,	2 50
J. M. Usher, sup. furnished Jacob Nichols,	6 00
D. Corning, Jr., for D. Corning & wife,	25 00—\$191 45

COUNTY PAUPERS.

D. H. Batchelder, med. at. at almshouse,	10 00
Wm. H. Martin " "	2 50
J. M. Usher, supplies, for S. Bancroft,	15 68
" " James Everton,	12 48
Horace P. Watts, for wood for S. Bancroft,	4 00
Calvin Boyd, " "	2 00
Boyes & Young " " last yr.	4 00
Wm. J. Campbell, med. at. on James Clark,	3 75—\$54 16

\$3491 61

DAVID R. LEACH, }
 JOHN A. HOLMES, } Overseers
 CALVIN BOYD, } of the
 } Poor.

AUDITORS REPORT.

LONDONDERRY, March 1, 1855.

The undersigned Auditors for the Town of Londonderry, have examined the accounts of the Selectmen of said town for the year ending March, 1855, and find the same correctly cast, and satisfactorily vouched.

WARREN RICHARDSON, }
ROBERT MACK, } Auditors.
MONTGOMERY DICKEY, }

Invoice of Stock and Produce at Almshouse, March 23, 1854.

1 pair oxen,	\$95 00	25 Gallons soap,	3 12
6 Cows,	118 00	50 Pounds butter, 20c,	10 00
1 Horse,	35 00	200 Pounds pork 10c,	20 00
1 Calf,	8 00	10 " hams, 12c,	12 00
3 Shoats,	40 00	75 " beef 7c,	5 25
No. 1 Hay,	126 00	40 " fish, 3½c,	1 40
No. 2 Hay,	5 00	12 " dry apple, 7c,	84
25 Bushels Corn,	25 00	3-4 barrel flour, \$9,	6 75
14 Bushels Oats,	7 00	45 Pounds lard, 11c,	4 95
2 Bushels beans and peas, 1,75	3 50	Groceries,	1 50
60 Bushels potatoes, 50c,	30 00	Meal,	1 50
15 Gallons vinegar, 15c,	2 25		
Cider,	1 75		
			\$563 81

Invoice of Stock and Produce at Almshouse Feb. 27, 1855.

6½ tons No. 1 hay, \$18	117 00	3 bushels onions,	2 25
1½ tons No. 2 hay, 14,	21 00	200 pounds perk,	25 00
3 tons No. 3 hay, 8,	24 00	100 pounds hams, 11,	11 00
1 pair oxen,	100 00	5 barrels apples, 1 25,	6 25
6 cows,	120 00	1 bushels cranberries,	2 00
1 yearling,	12 00	Beans,	87
1 calf,	5 00	80 pounds beef 8c,	6 40
1 horse,	100 00	85 pounds fish, 3½,	2 81
4 shoats,	36 00	140 pounds dry apple, 5,	7 00
25 bushels corn, 1,20	30 00	flour,	10 25
18 bushels oats, 55c,	9 35	60 pounds lard, 11,	6 60
13 barrels cider, 1,50,	19 50	groceries,	2 00
28 gallons soap,	3 50	1½ bushel Meal,	1 80
Vegetables,	75		
53 pounds butter, 23c,	12 19		
90 pushels potatoes, 65,	58 50		
			\$753 02

ALMSHOUSE IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TOWN.

	Cr.
By Invoice February 27th, 1855,	753 02
building 25 rods of wall,	18 75
paid for sawing boards,	8 00
balance of book account,	10 00

Received of County for County poor at almshouse,	385 65—\$1175 42
	Dr.
To Invoice, March 23d, 1854,	563 81
received for timber, at 7,50 per ton,	152 61
balance of book account,	26 00
pay Superintendent,	300 00
paid medical attendance,	13 25
pay R. White's bill,	15 75
pay Wm. H. Martin's bill,	2 25—\$1073 67
	<hr/> \$101 75

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY, Dr.

MARCH 1, 1855.

To John Gilcreast's note dated Sept. 9th, 1853, int. paid to March 9th, 1855,	200 00
West Parish, note dated Sept. 1st, 1853, interest paid one year,	140 00
outstanding orders of 1854 and 5,	301 00
Fellows, land damage awarded by road com., but he claims some il- legality in their proceedings and will not take,	50 00
School District No. 7, school-house tax assessed,	500 00
Reuben White, goods at almshouse,	15 75
Wm. H. Martin, med. at. "	2 25
" " services as school com.	13 00—\$1222 00
	Cr.
By balance in Treasury,	1027 27
due from the town of Amherst for J. Nichols,	6 00—\$1033 27
Balance of debts above credit,	\$188 73
Add town house and Auburn road notes, held by town Treasurer,	\$1619 67
Whole amount of debt,	<hr/> \$1808 40

DAVID R. LEACH, }
JOHN A. HOLMES, } Selectmen.
CALVIN BOYD, }

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN: Your Committee have attended to the duties assigned them, and beg leave to submit the following

REPORT :

Each School has been visited, with one exception, at least twice, both in the Summer and Winter terms; and such suggestions and remarks were made, as the wants and best interests of each school seemed to require. A brief view of the schools will now be given in their numerical order.

DISTRICT No. 1.—The Summer School in this District, was taught by Miss Sarah A. M. Alexander, of Derry. Miss A. was well qualified aside from experience, to keep a Common School. This is the largest school in town varying in age from four to fourteen years. It requires not a little energy and patience, to teach a school like this. Nearly one half are learning the alphabet and to put letters together in simple words and sentences; and there are classes, one or more, in all the branches of learning usually taught in our schools.

One great obstacle the teacher had to contend with, was irregularity of attendance. We find by examination of the Register, that about one-third of the school were absent one-half of the time, while some were there only two weeks; barely long enough to be counted as scholars, and seven attended *less* than two weeks.

The general progress of the school we considered very fair, while in some of the classes commendable improvement had been made, *not* by those who were there only twelve, fourteen or sixteen days each, in as many weeks,—that

class of course learned comparatively nothing,—but by those who had attended with some degree of regularity. Miss A., it is believed, gave general satisfaction to her employers.

The Winter School was taught by Mr. Samuel Gilcreast. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather and the consequent irregularity of attendance, the school had made perceptible improvement. Both classes in English Grammer, and those in Colburn's Arithmetic deserve especial notice.

Although many of the scholars reside in remote parts of the District, and may find it somewhat inconvenient to attend school constantly in the winter season, yet, as there is a good warm house, after it is reached, and otherwise ample accommodations, both in-doors and out, we are of opinion, that with due effort on the part of parents and scholars, the average attendance might be much increased.

DISTRICT No. 2.—*Summer*—Miss Amanda M. Harris, Teacher, of Nashua.

Miss H. was more than usually well qualified to give instruction in the various branches taught in our schools. When first visited, the school did not appear so orderly and quiet as was desirable, but on a subsequent visit, in this respect they had improved, and at the close, the expectations of the Committee were more than realized. All the scholars present seemed to be mindful of the best interests of the school, and exerted themselves to their utmost to please their teacher.

Some of the classes appeared well, and all gave evidence that they had been correctly instructed. The Reading and Spelling was fair, and the first class in Colburn's Arithmetic deserved to be particularly mentioned.

The exercises at the examination had been previously arranged with much taste, and were varied and interesting. Some appropriate songs were introduced by the older girls, which served to enhance the interest of the occasion, and with which the committee were much pleased.

It is our impression, if the school was not as profitable as it otherwise might have been, the fault was not in the teacher.

The Winter School is now in session, under the charge of Mr. Judkins, of Kingston. Mr J. is an experienced, and very competent teacher. He is methodical, both in government and instruction, and a strict disciplinarian, just what is needed in all our schools, and especially in this one. The school has been visited twice by a member of the committee but not examined, and from the impression received,

we have no doubt the school will give a good account of itself at the close. We think the District, if they consult the best interests of their school will secure the services of Mr. Judkins another winter term, even if they are obliged to wait a few weeks longer than they otherwise would.

DISTRICT No. 3.—*Summer*.—Taught by Miss Julia M. Kelly, of Lowell.

Miss K. has had much experience in teaching and in this school discharged well, the duties devolving upon her. Her method of instruction and discipline was thorough and systematic. A little more originality and not quite so close attention to text-books, would be an improvement in her manner of instruction. On examination the school appeared to have profited well under her charge, particularly in Reading and Writing. We noticed some among her scholars, who, according to their ages, would compare well, in regard to advancement with many older members of the larger schools in town.

The Winter School under the instruction of Mr. G. H. Burns, of Hudson, gave good evidence, at the examination of having been conducted with efficiency and skill, as the progress of the school in the branches taught, was excellent, considering the shortness of the term, which was only 7 1-2 weeks.

The committee are glad to say that particular attention was given to Reading and Spelling, in which important branches the school consequently made good improvement. The average attendance was large, when compared with many other schools in town, being about six-sevenths of the whole number.

DISTRICT No. 4.—The Summer School here was under the charge of Miss Sarah J. Gilcreast, whose reputation as a teacher, is too well established in town to need any commendation from your committee.

This is the second term she has taught the school, and so far as we can learn, with entire satisfaction to the District. The school generally made *more* than ordinary advancement. Among the best classes, we would mention one in Grammar, the second and third classes in Reading; and a large class of boys and girls in Emerson's Arithmetic deserves high praise, each one reciting *correctly* the multiplication table. There was one feature in the Arithmetical exercises of this school with which the committee were much

pleased. It was the giving out of a series of numbers in quick succession and requiring the scholars to make the additions as she proceeded and give the answer at once when the last number was named. This exercise is valuable for inducing energy and activity in mental operations.

The Winter School was taught by Mr. Mark Poor, of Derry. This school when visited near the commencement by a member of the committee appeared to be in a flourishing condition. The scholars were orderly and quiet, and the classes well arranged, while the character of the exercises were such as to give us a favorable impression in regard to its usefulness.

We regret that the state of the weather was such, the committee were unable to visit it at the close, and therefore cannot from personal knowledge state what advancement the school had made. But we are glad to learn from members of the District who were present the last day, and in the absence of the committee examined the school for themselves, that the school was highly successful and worthy the *especial* notice of the committee.

DISTRICT No. 5.—*Summer*.—Taught by Miss Sarah L. Simonds.

From different visits made during the session we considered this in most respects a model school. The whispering and buzzing and consequent confusion too often met with in the school-room, was not heard here. Unfortunately, owing to the ill health of the teacher, the school closed during the last week, previous to the day set apart for the examination, so that we are not able to say what classes if any deserve particular notice; but your committee are confident from the character of the recitations which came under their notice, that all would have acquitted themselves handsomely.

The Winter School was under the instruction of Mr. Jonathan McAllister, whose merit as a teacher is well known and appreciated by the District, and consequently he is enabled to do their children an incalculable amount of good.

We consider this school eminently successful. Good improvement was made by every class the committee heard at the commencement and the close. We were pleased to notice that much attention was given to Reading. The scholars were not only required to call all the words right and observe the "stops and marks," but were trained to give the appropriate inflections and expression. Exercises upon emphasis and inflection were read in connexion

with their lessons, which we consider of great importance. Scholars may read over and even commit to memory the various rules of reading at the commencement of the school as is the practice of some; yet if these rules are not often referred to and examples illustrative frequently read, they will do them little good. We were somewhat disappointed in not seeing some members of the District present at the examination. We find however by the Register, that a goodly number of visits were made by citizens during the school.

DISTRICT No. 6.—This District as is well known is entirely destitute of a school-house. No school was kept here during the Summer, but in the Winter a small room in a private dwelling house was provided for the purpose and a school commenced under the care of Miss Aurelia A. Taylor, who continued her labors about six and a half weeks, when an unpleasant disaffection arose in the District which resulted in dissolving her connexion with the school.

The services of Mr. G. F. Kilburn, of Boscawin, were subsequently secured, who conducted the school acceptably to the District for the remainder of the term, consisting of $4\frac{1}{2}$ weeks. The school here is small and the scholars somewhat backward, owing in a great measure to feuds and controversies heretofore and at present existing in the District, which deprives them of a school-house, and otherwise affects their school privileges. The school at the close however had made fair improvement. The first classes in Reading, Grammar and Geography deserve some notice. The Writing-Books had been neatly kept, and some very fair specimens of penmanship were observed.

DISTRICT No. 7.—The Summer School was taught by Miss Emily C. White.

This was her first attempt at teaching, but she discharged her duty as well as could be expected under existing circumstances. The school-room is contracted and very inconvenient, faults which tend to retard the progress of any District school. Notwithstanding these disadvantages, tolerably good improvement was made, particularly in Moses' Geography and Colburn's Arithmetic. It is believed that good satisfaction was given through the District.

The Winter School was under the charge of Miss Jane Taylor, who from long experience has gained a good reputation as a teacher. Her method of instruction is concise and systematic. The school manifested more than its ordina-

ry interest in the studies pursued, and a good degree of proficiency was made, particularly in Reading and Spelling. A class in Colburn's Arithmetic deserves much credit.

DISTRICT No. 8.—*Summer*.—This school was taught by Miss Frances M. Brickett, of Fisherville.

Owing to a misunderstanding the school was not visited at the close by the same member of the committee who had visited it at the commencement, and who had the school more particularly in charge, so that an accurate statement of its condition and progress cannot be made.

The school was large, and continued seventeen weeks, but we perceive by the Register, that the attendance was very irregular especially towards the close.

Miss Brickett exhibited very fair literary qualifications for teaching and possessed apparently a good faculty of imparting instruction, and when the school was visited at the commencement appeared to be making laudable efforts to secure good order; yet being young and totally unexperienced in the business, she failed to give entire satisfaction to her employers, and the committee cannot but express their belief, that she was unfortunate, in engaging so large a school, wherein to commence a career of teaching.

The Winter School was in charge of Mr. John Dickey.

Although there are many disadvantages connected with this school, yet it is thought it will compare favorably with most schools in town. The school appeared well at the examination and the teacher gives much credit to the older scholars for their commendable efforts in behalf of good order and decorum in the school-room.

DISTRICT No. 9.—Both the Summer and Winter Schools in this District were taught by Miss Lucy J. Holmes.

Although Miss H. made here, her first attempt at teaching, she entered into the spirit of her duties with persevering energy that would have done honor to age and experience.

If we were to specify any particular exercises, deserving more than the rest to be mentioned, it would be those in the Sounds of the Letters, Reading and Spelling, and some classes in Mental Arithmetic; and these although they rank the first in importance on our catalogue of English branches are exactly the ones the most neglected. We are happy to say that the teacher here endeavored to do justice to these substantial elements in an English education. During both the Summer and Winter Schools much pains had been ta-

ken in penmanship by both teacher and scholars in which branch good improvement had been made.

Four scholars during the Summer term out of a school of twenty-three, viz : Eliza J. Webster, Ellen M. Webster, Horace Corning and James Patterson were neither absent nor tardy.

DISTRICT No. 10.—This is but a part of a District and adjoins No. 3, in Derry. The Summer School was taught by Miss Abby J. Hall, and the Winter School by Miss Jane C. Mahaffery.

DISTRICT No. 11.—The Summer School was taught by Miss B. C. W. Corning, of Manchester, who though inexperienced was well qualified in a literary point of view for the task she had undertaken.

On making our first visit, the school appeared in rather a retrograde condition, but Miss C. so far succeeded in interesting them in their studies that the committee had the satisfaction of finding at the close of the school, a good degree of order prevailing and much improvement manifested among the pupils.

The Winter School was under the charge of Mr. Samuel Gilcreast, one of the superintending committee of the town.

This school was visited but once by another member of the Board, about the middle of the term. The school was very orderly and gave good evidence that they were making fair improvement.

GENERAL REMARKS.

SCHOOL-HOUSES.—There are in town ten whole Districts and a fraction of a District belonging to Derry. One District is entirely destitute of a school-house, and not more than four or five in the remaining nine, are at all adequate to the wants of the schools. Districts No. 2 and 3, would receive much benefit from the speedy erection of ample and commodious houses ; while Districts No. 7, and No. 8, are suffering an immense waste of money every year, and especially in the Winter season, from their neglect to do the

same. The importance of this matter has been repeatedly laid before the town and urged upon the notice of these vernal Districts, and we would at this time simply suggest to those if any there be, who have hitherto failed to learn the fact, that their children need, at least as cleanly and comfortable apartments as their cattle and sheep.

SCHOOLS.—The average length of our schools has been greater during the past year than has usually been the case in town. Generally they have been successful, and a few we think have taken a step in advance, in regard to their general improvement and advancement in the sciences.

Notwithstanding all the efforts that have been made by Committees and Teacher's, the scholars belonging to our schools are very far from being punctual in their attendance, and prompt to the time of commencing school in the morning. Very few of the Registers show the fact, that *even a single scholar* has been neither absent nor tardy. This is not as it should be. Each member of your committee has had more or less experience in the business of teaching and they have become thoroughly convinced both by experience and observation that this is one of the most common and ruinous evils with which our schools have to contend. And we do not base this opinion on our own judgement alone. It is the decided belief of eminent educators in this and the adjoining states that "one half the benefit which might be derived from our schools is absolutely lost from this cause alone. We believe this great evil may be effectually remedied if not entirely cured by proper efforts on the part of parents and guardians, and we hopefully trust the time is not far distant when it may truthfully be said of at least *half* our scholars that they are punctual and constant.

A great obstacle in the way of the more rapid improvement of our schools is the almost endless variety of textbooks now used through the town. Your committee have found in one school as many as seven different kinds of

Reading Books, and in town five kinds of Geographies and three different Spelling Books.

This necessarily causes a great waste of the teacher's time, as often, a large portion of the school, of the same grade, and which might be contained in one class, is separated into two or three, and the limited time allowed the teacher, barely sufficient to devote to the interests of that class, is divided accordingly, thereby preventing him from doing anything like justice to either. Your committee took this matter into consideration at an early day and became convinced that an entire change in some classes of our Text-books could not but operate favorably on the prosperity of our schools, but they found it required much labor and careful investigation to do the work properly, and no series of Reading Books having fallen under their observation which they deemed sufficiently adapted to the wants of our schools, no change has been made; but they have concluded to defer the subject to the consideration and better judgement of their successors.

Although our teachers have uniformly sustained a fair examination, some of them have exhibited a careless manner of teaching, such as pronouncing *yes yis, forget forgit, of off, been ben, &c.*, to say nothing of their mangling some very plain Geographical names, which every teacher should be able to pronounce, and of which the true pronunciation should be insisted upon from the scholars; besides some teachers have permitted their scholars to cipher or pretend to cipher half way through their Arithmetic without reciting the rules or being able to properly understand the problems.

These may be considered by some as trifling errors, but they are really of great magnitude. It is enough that a scholar be permitted to pass along through his Text-book whatever it may be, in a hurried, careless manner making more or less blunders at every section or paragraph and at the end be perfectly ignorant of every thing except the fac

that *he has been through the book*. But the teacher is expected to see that he does his work promptly, correctly, thoroughly: that his pronunciations are accurate, his explanations plain, and his general course of study methodical and precise. Your committee would recommend as a remedy for the evils just mentioned that Prudential committees be more circumspect in their selection of teachers, and acting upon the same principle that governs them in their own private affairs, employ no one who cannot give some evidence that he or she is at least *faithful* and *diligent* in the discharge of their known duties.

We would urge upon parents and citizens generally a more hearty and sympathetic co-operation with the teacher. Encourage him—make kindly suggestions that may serve to assist him in his arduous duties. If he is a reasonable man he will appreciate them. Do not condemn him before his pupils, although he may be faulty, for in doing so you most certainly destroy their confidence in their teacher, diminish his influence, and ultimately put an end to his usefulness.

And we would recommend a more general practice of visiting schools by parents. Permit us to say that one or two or three half days spent in the school-room during the term is not entirely lost time, for you thereby avail yourselves of the very best opportunity to judge correctly of the worth of the school and of the merits and demerits of your teacher—whether or not he is faithful to the trust imposed upon him—whether his time is exclusively devoted to the interests of your children, or whether he is inclined to play the “soger” and make his own personal ease his chief aim in the school-room.

SAMUEL GILCREAST,	} Superintending
W. H. MARTIN,	
JOHN DICKEY,	
	} School Committee.

TABLE.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.

Length of Winter School in weeks.		Length of Summer School in weeks.		Amount of board contributed.		Fuel and Repairs.		Board.		Wages per month—Winter Teacher.		Wages per month—Summer Teacher.		Amount of School Money.		Average No. in Winter.		Average No. in Summer.		Whole No. attending School over 4 years old, 2 weeks.		No. of the Districts.	
12	16	14	24 00	6 62	5 55	44 00	22 00	8 00	128 30	46 52	99	1											
CHARLES E. YOUNG,																							
DAVID WHITEMORE,	7½	14		6 00	5 55		20 00	20 00	72 67	24 23	41	3											
SIMEON TITCOMB,	10	14	20 00				20 00	8 00	88 90	32 24	46	4											
CYRUS HAYWARD,	10½	15½					20 00	8 00	100 04	27	54	5											
SAMUEL WOODBURY,	11			14 56	16 81		14 50		66 95	9	14	6											
ROBERT HALL,	10½	11			26 00		14 00	7 52	95 10	19 32	43	7											
PERRY POOH,	17			16 39	43 50		20 00	7 00	139 64	41 46	87	8											
DAVID BARKER,	13	9		6 66	30 75		8 00	8 00	84 06	15 21	32	9											
DANIEL CORNING, JR.,	8						9 00		19 89	8	12	10											
ISAAC COLBURN, JR.,	7	11	30 50						58 53	25 29	40	11											
VOWEL WILLEY.																							

Interest from Surplus Revenue,	\$ 100 00
Income from Literary Fund,	125 00
Whole amount of School Money,	1008 24



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1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404	2405	2406	2407	2408	2409	2410	2411	2412	2413	2414	2415	2416	2417	2418	2419	2420	2421	2422	2423	2424	2425	2426	2427	2428	2429	2430	2431	2432	2433	2434	2435	2436	2437	2438	2439	2440	2441	2442	2443	2444	2445	2446	2447	2448	2449	2450	2451	2452	2453	2454	2455	2456	2457	2458	2459	2460	2461	2462	2463	2464	2465	2466	2467	2468	2469	2470	2471	2472	2473	2474	2475	2476	2477	2478	2479	2480	2481	2482	2483	2484	2485	2486	2487	2488	2489	2490	2491	2492	2493	2494	2495	2496	2497	2498	2499	2500	2501	2502	2503	2504	2505	2506	2507	2508	2509	2510	2511	2512	2513	2514	2515	2516	2517	2518	2519	2520	2521	2522	2523	2524	2525	2526	2527	2528	2529	2530	2531	2532	2533	2534	2535	2536	2537	2538	2539	2540	2541	2542	2543	2544	2545	2546	2547	2548	2549	2550	2551	2552	2553	2554	2555	2556	2557	2558	2559	2560	2561	2562	2563	2564	2565	2566	2567	2568	2569	2570	2571	2572	2573	2574	2575	2576	2577	2578	2579	2580	2581	2582	2583	2584	2585	2586	2587	2588	2589	2590	2591	2592	2593	2594	2595	2596	2597	2598	2599	2600	2601	2602	2603	2604	2605	2606	2607	2608	2609	2610	2611	2612	2613	2614	2615	2616	2617	2618	2619	2620	2621	2622	2623	2624	2625	2626	2627	2628	2629	2630	2631	2632	2633	2634	2635	2636	2637	2638	2639	2640	2641	2642	2643	2644	2645	2646	2647	2648	2649	2650	2651	2652	2653	2654	2655	2656	2657	2658	2659	2660	2661	2662	2663	2664	2665	2666	2667	2668	2669	2670	2671	2672	2673	2674	2675	2676	2677	2678	2679	2680	2681	2682	2683	2684	2685	2686	2687	2688	2689	2690	2691	2692	2693	2694	2695	2696	2697	2698	2699	2700	2701	2702	2703	2704	2705	2706	2707	2708	2709	2710	2711	2712	2713	2714	2715	2716	2717	2718	2719	2720	2721	2722	2723	2724	2725	2726	2727	2728	2729	2730	2731	2732	2733	2734	2735	2736	2737	2738	2739	2740	2741	2742	2743	2744	2745	2746	2747	2748	2749	2750	2751	2752	2753	2754	2755	2756	2757	2758	2759	2760	2761	2762	2763	2764	2765	2766	2767	2768	2769	2770	2771	2772	2773	2774	2775	2776	2777	2778	2779	2780	2781	2782	2783	2784	2785	2786	2787	2788	2789	2790	2791	2792	2793	2794	2795	2796	2797	2798	2799	2800	2801	2802	2803	2804	2805	2806	2807	2808	2809	2810	2811	2812	2813	2814	2815	2816	2817	2818	2819	2820	2821	2822	2823	2824	2825	2826	2827	2828	2829	2830	2831	2832	2833	2834	2835	2836	2837	2838	2839	2840	2841	2842	2843	2844	2845	2846	2847	2848	2849	2850	2851	2852	2853	2854	2855	2856	2857	2858	2859	2860	2861	2862	2863	2864	2865	2866	2867	2868	2869	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